



## Identification of the Recommended Plan

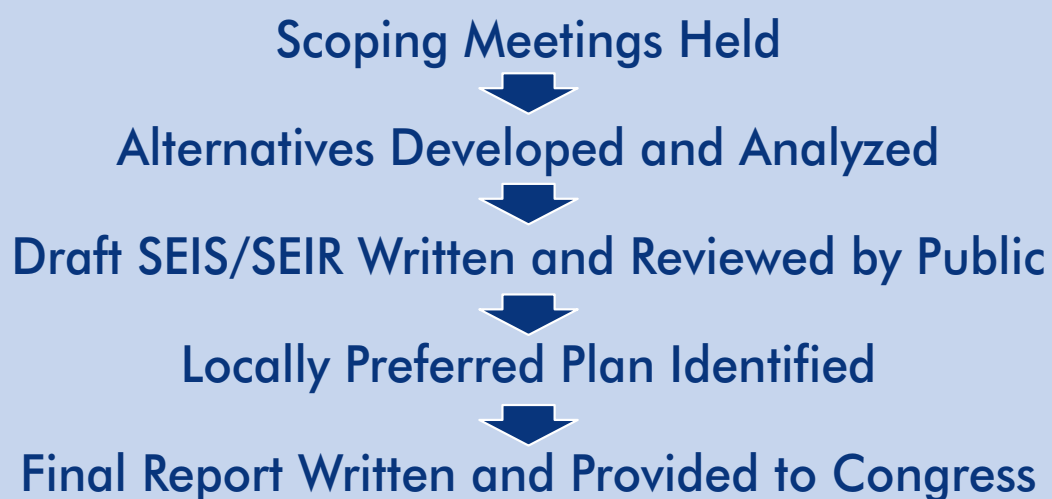
The current study was mandated by Congress as a focused extension of the ongoing American River Watershed Investigation. This study does not focus on a flood control dam at Auburn, because the previous studies have adequately evaluated this alternative. The purposes of the study are to:

- examine the feasibility of a small raise of Folsom Dam to create additional flood storage capacity (an alternative not pursued in either of the preceding studies);
- reexamine previously studied alternatives involving increasing the design capacity of the levee system;
- study creating more flood storage space within Folsom Reservoir through improved dam operation; and
- evaluate opportunities for ecosystem restoration at Folsom Dam and along the Lower American River.

Early in this study, scoping meetings were held to give the public an opportunity to suggest other alternatives to examine. Out of this process, five options for ecosystem restoration were defined.

Alternatives to increase flood storage capacity at Folsom Dam, increase downstream conveyance capacity, and restore the Lower American River ecosystem were developed and analyzed. This process and the resulting alternatives are described in the draft report. The draft report includes a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

After this current public review of the draft report, SAFCA and The Reclamation Board will identify a locally preferred plan. A final report will be written that responds to public comments and recommends a plan for Congressional approval. This plan will likely be provided to Congress for consideration in 2002.

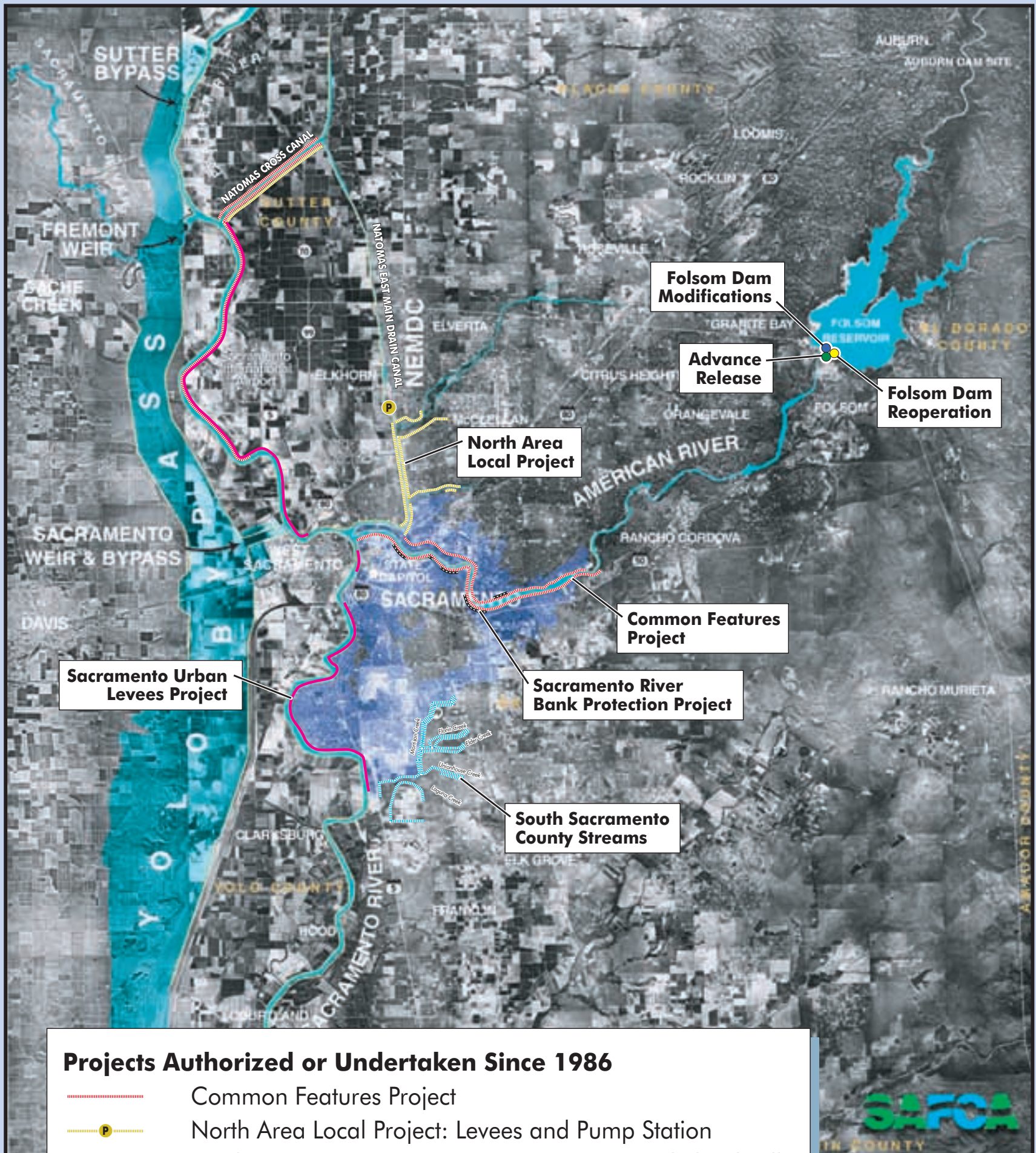






## Decision-Making Process

### Regional Flood Control Features



#### Projects Authorized or Undertaken Since 1986

- Common Features Project
- North Area Local Project: Levees and Pump Station
- South Sacramento County Streams: Levees and Floodwalls
- Folsom Dam Reoperation: Variable Flood Control Space
- Folsom Dam Modifications: Increase Low-Level Outlets Capacity and Surge Storage
- Folsom Dam Flood Management Plan (Advance Release)
- Sacramento River Bank Protection Project
- Sacramento Urban Levees Project





# State of California The Reclamation Board

## Alternatives

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The study considers the following alternatives:

**No-Action.** Only improvements currently authorized by Congress would be implemented, including:

- Regional levee strengthening,
- North Area Local Project – levees and pump station,
- South Sacramento County Streams – levees and floodwalls,
- Folsom Dam Reoperation – variable flood control space,
- Folsom Dam Modifications – enlarge low-level outlets,
- Folsom Dam Flood Management Plan (Advance Release),
- Sacramento River Bank Protection Project, and
- Sacramento Urban Levee Reconstruction.

Construction of these improvements will be completed by 2008. This alternative assumes that Congress will not authorize any additional flood control improvements along the American River.

**Folsom Dam Raise Plan.** Folsom Dam would be raised to provide increased reservoir storage space for flood control. Different dam raise alternatives are included in the evaluation of the Folsom Dam Raise Plan:

- 3.5-foot raise,
- 7-foot raise, and
- 12-foot raise.

**Stepped Release Plan.** The capacity of the American River channel below Folsom Dam would be increased to accommodate higher flood control releases from the dam. Three increased channel capacity options are:

- 160,000 cubic feet per second (cfs);
- 160,000 cfs, with additional new outlets at Folsom Dam; and
- 180,000 cfs.

**Combination Plan.** A plan combining a 7-foot dam raise with stepped release to 160,000 cfs.

**Ecosystem Restoration.** Modification of intake shutters at Folsom Dam penstocks and restoration of habitat at four sites along the Lower American River:

- Urrutia,
- Woodlake,
- Bushy Lake, and
- Arden Bar.